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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 3110.07US06

Kuslich et al.

Confirmation No.: 2692

Application No.: 10/812,345

Examiner: Candice Stokes

Filed: March 29, 2004

Group Art Unit: 3732

For: ANNULUS-REINFORCING BAND

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action of January 13, 2005, and in accordance with the automatic extension of time for response provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), amendment to the above-identified patent application is requested.

The present amendment comprises the following sections:

- A. Amendments to the Claims; and
- B. Remarks

*Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.*

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306 on the date shown below.

Date

7-13-05

Wendy J. Cusick